GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1729
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2002
NEGOTIATION WITH BLACKLISTED COMPANIES
NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the press news item captioned `Return of the prodigals on Doordarshan` as reported in `The Times of India` dated August 12, 2002;

(b) if so, whether the producers of TV serials who were defaulter and blacklisted have now beennegotiating with Prasar Bharati for a comeback;

(c) if so, the facts and details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to prevent re-entry of such blacklisted producers?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d): Prasar Bharati has informed that some defaulting Producers have requested PrasarBharati Board to consider their representation with regard to accumulation of huge outstandings. Prasar Bharati Board has taken a decision that grievances of the Producers should be examined, but in the meantime these Producers should be allowed business on Doordarshan Channels only against production of bank guarantees for the current business or on advance payment basis. Action against defaulting producers, for recovery of outstanding dues, is already being taken. Legal notices have been issued to all the producers and Arbitration proceedings, where necessary are being launched for recovery of dues.